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**Brazil and Pan-Americanism.**

Today Brazil celebrates the twenty-eighth anniversary of her entrance into the sisterhood of American republics. The date corresponds quite closely in significance with our own Fourth of July. On November 15, 1889, the republic was proclaimed by the provisional Government under the leadership of Deodoro da Fonseca; and on the same day Dom Pedro II, whose personal amiability and excellent intentions had not been able to check the abuses of corruption and misgovernment from which that great nation suffered, received notice to quit. By a practically peaceful revolution the new rule of democracy was established in Brazil.

Let every American of the United States rejoice today that this friendly republic of the South is not only associated with us in form of government, in national aspirations and in sympathy with the common ideals cherished in the Western Hemisphere both above and below the equator, but is also actually engaged in the military operations undertaken to make the world safe for our democracies and for all other democracies. By declaring a state of war with Germany, under provocation similar to that which the United States bore so long and which almost every other American republic has experienced at the hands of insolent Hohenzollern autocracy, Brazil has ranged herself for this war with us and with our allies.

The appreciation of the importance of American solidarity in the world contest is growing fast in the United States. As republic after republic to the south of us breaks off relations with the common enemy, the meaning of the new union of interests and action appears more clearly to the vision of our own people. Besides this Government, not less than twelve of the American sisterhood of twenty-one have terminated diplomatic intercourse with the aggressor Power, leaving only eight yet neutral; and three republics of the Pan-American Union, besides the United States, are now actually at war with the German Government.

This is progress indeed toward that Pan-Americanism which is to count for so much in the independent and equal development of the respective interests of the Western republics; and specially with regard to Brazil is this birthday of her republic existence an appropriate time to express the profound gratification with which the citizens of the United States regard her entrance into the mighty struggle and the high value we attach to her practical and powerful cooperation.

Congratulations, then, to the friend and gratitude to the ally. Hall and welcome, Brazil!

**German Ruthlessness in East Africa.**

East Africa is a difficult region in which to make war. There are mosquitoes, tigers, the tsetse fly and a mysterious horse sickness. There is black cotton soil, often a bottomless morass. Lions and leopards are sheltered in many caves. Water is often inaccessible. Scorpions are embedded in the mud. "Giraffes," says Lieutenant E. WILLIAM BOYCE, of the Hussars, "have a tiresome way of carrying off field telegraph and telephone wires; while the passage of our small boats at the Rufiji River crossing was met with active hostility" on the part of certain hippopotami.

And everywhere overpowering heat and the noxious jungle. To these adverse natural conditions has been added the German ruthlessness method of warfare. Poisoned wells have been told about, but the ruthlessness here referred to was shown in the German treatment of natives. Lieutenant BOYCE was attached to the Nigeria Regiment and his mention of German cruelties is incidental to a description of the country he campaigned over, printed in the *Geographical Journal* of London.

Early in the war the Germans seized the aboriginal natives. Some they made soldiers, but they kept as porters. The younger women were distributed among the porters so seized, and this reduced the number of desertions by native men. The old men and women and the

children were left home to starve. It is true the woods were full of game, but this is a race which knows not how to hunt, and which, having lived on a wholly vegetable diet, cannot eat meat regularly as a substitute without contracting disease.

With every British advance the troops found in desolate compounds a few survivors of famine. "Often starved beyond all recovery," having to retreat unexpectedly the Germans once found it necessary to abandon a quantity of flour. They did so, after soaking it with kerosene. This they did though there were starving natives in the village they were quitting. Two died the next morning.

"The porter who falls sick beyond recovery can no longer claim his rations, but is left by the roadside to die like any four-legged animal."

The African natives, says Lieutenant BOYCE, have as profound a sense of justice as any people. Through many generations they will remember these inflictions.

**Keeping the Home Fires Burning.**

Governor WHITMAN has made public some suggestions about coal fires which are designed to promote economy and aid Dr. GARFIELD's Fuel Administration.

Open grate fires are wasteful of coal. Heating the whole house is often extravagant. Spare rooms should be shut up and have the heat turned off.

In tending a furnace fire it is important to see that there are no cracks at the floor line of the furnace, admitting air to the ash pit.

A thin fire is wasteful. Keep the firebox filled to the level recommended by the maker.

A fire benefits by regular and methodical care. It should be cooled and shaken down at set times. The ordinary furnace needs shaking once a day and twice in bitter weather.

Shake the fire until you can see light underneath; not a bit longer. Put on coal after shaking, never before.

Keep the draughts shut off as much as possible. Don't leave the feed door open. Keep the ash pit empty and sift the ashes.

So much for householders; but how about apartmenters?

Be gentle with the janitor, but investigate his doings. It may be his wasteful and careless operation of the fire which leaves your family to shiver all morning. The landlord doesn't want to pay for unnecessary coal. He should be your best ally in finding and remedying the fault.

**Will the Tammany Aldermen Reduce the Fusion Budget?**

The Board of Aldermen has received and referred to its Finance Committee the budget prepared by the Board of Estimate for 1918, which carries appropriations aggregating \$240,000,000. The budget is the fruit of the efforts of the Fusion members of the Board of Estimate to provide for the economical and effective administration of the city's affairs, and the members of the incoming administration in their campaign for election denounced it as extravagant and wasteful. They have now an opportunity to reduce its appropriations through the Board of Aldermen; for Tammany controls the Board of Aldermen, just as the Fusion majority of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment controls the body which prepared the budget.

The Aldermen's powers over the budget are broad. They are set forth specifically in Section 226 of the charter thus:

"The Board of Aldermen may reduce the said several amounts fixed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, except such amounts as are now or may hereafter be fixed by law, and except such amounts as may be inserted by the said Board of Estimate and Apportionment for the payment of State taxes and payment of interest and principal of the city debt, but the Board of Aldermen may not increase such amounts nor vary the terms and conditions thereof, nor insert any new items."

"Such action of the Board of Aldermen on reducing any item or amount fixed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall be subject to the veto power of the Mayor as elsewhere provided in this act, and unless such veto is overridden by a three-fourths vote of the Board of Aldermen, the item or amount as fixed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall stand as part of the budget."

How potent the Aldermen may be for economy these sentences from the charter reveal. Moreover, the Tammany Aldermen are peculiarly well situated to obtain exact and unimpeachable information concerning the budget their fellow partisans have bitterly assailed. President FRANK L. DOWLING of the Board of Aldermen is a Tammany man, and by virtue of his office is a member of the Board of Estimate.

If the Tammany attacks on the Fusion administration in which extravagance in appropriations was alleged are based on facts, those facts may now be officially disclosed by the Tammany Aldermen. The money provided in the budget is to be spent by Tammany men; the duty to restrain expenditures within reasonable limits will be theirs: Mayor-elect HYMAN

and his executive colleagues of the Board of Estimate to be have already given evidence, by appeals to the Board of Estimate not to impose new obligations on the city, of their recognition of the responsibility that will devolve on them; and if the Tammany Aldermen do not cut the budget a large sum of contemplated appropriations, the city will be justified in regarding their profection charges as mere buncombe, false and unjustified.

**Karl Muck.**

The following letter has been received from a Brooklyn reader of THE SUN:

"To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: For the benefit of many of the Brooklyn subscribers to the Boston Symphony you kindly give a brief history of KARL MUCK?"

"Is he a Prussian and is he a close friend of the Kaiser? Has he expressed any opinion in regard to the war?"

"Do you think a loyal American can consistently attend his concerts?"

"Symphony Subscribers."

KARL MUCK is not a Prussian but a Bavarian. He is a personal friend of the Kaiser.

He was born in 1859 in Würzburg, the son of a Councillor of the Kingdom of Bavaria. His father was a gifted musician. At eleven KARL MUCK appeared in public as a pianist. Later he was a violinist in a symphony orchestra.

He went to Heidelberg and Leipzig. The latter university gave him his Ph. D. in 1880, there being no degree of Doctor of Music.

Dr. Muck's subsequent career has been as follows:

1880-1881, Chorus master in the Municipal Theatre at Zürich.

1881-1882, Conductor at Salzburg, Austria.

1882-1884, Conductor of opera at Brünn, Austria.

1884-1886, Conductor of opera at Graz, Austria.

1886-1892, Conductor of German opera and Philharmonic concerts at Prague, Bohemia.

1892, Conductor of ANGELO NEUMANN's opera company in Russia.

1891, Conductor of NEUMANN's opera company in Berlin.

1892-1896, Principal conductor of the Royal Opera in Berlin.

1896-1897, Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

As "guest" conductor Dr. Muck appeared at various times in Petrograd and Moscow, Copenhagen, Madrid, Paris and London.

Now as to our reader's remaining questions:

We can find no record of an expression by Dr. Muck of any opinion on the war unless this, in a despatch from Boston dated November 1, should be so classified:

"I am not a naturalized American citizen. Naturally one would not expect me to do exactly the same as if I were a citizen of America."

Major HENRY L. HIGGINSON has publicly stated that Dr. Muck did not at any time refuse to play "The Star Spangled Banner." The Boston Symphony Orchestra now regularly plays "The Star Spangled Banner," Dr. Muck conducting.

We see no reason why a loyal American may not conscientiously attend the concerts presided over by Dr. Muck, in this not so much disagreeing with as diverging from the point of view expressed by HJALMAR H. BOYSEN in a letter printed elsewhere on this page. By no stretch of the imagination can Dr. Muck's customary attitude be characterized as that of a "contemptuous and defiant alien." Dr. Muck's polished manner may conceal a severe contempt for much that is American, but, as the reviewer of musical affairs for THE SUN observed on November 9, 1900, "the new conductor . . . is anything but a poseur."

Has Dr. Muck ever said anything adverse about America? As we say, we find no record of it; but we do find him recorded as calling America "a marvellous country, a country that should be the source of splendid inspiration for every art." We do find him recorded as saying (the italics are apparently his own):

"In America, I should say, you will have for your later day must the great idea of democracy, of freedom for all the people."

dragged defiant before their tormentors or submitting weakly to the customs of sacrifice, has carried the makings of courage or complexion. In the pictures such prisoners were always portrayed as woefully dishevelled, swooning on beds of straw, or perhaps praying behind clumsy walls or strolling majestically to their doom. But never a handbag. Axioms possessed not even a night dress when discovered by the dragon; no virgin cast into the Nile ever had a bath towel concealed on her person; no victim of suttie ever carried a pitcher of ice water. In all ages there have been rough practices against the tender sex, and they, poor things, were in a constant state of unpreparedness.

Times are improving. Women have developed beyond even their own not inconsiderable claims. The flag of assault and the handbag of defence, taken together, constitute a symbol unmistakable. Congress cannot be so blud as to overlook it.

**Was It Cake They Sold as Bread?**

Mr. Hoover's regulations for bakers will occasion astonishment in many American households whose grain consumption is too inconsiderable to bring them within the Food Administration's license system.

The Food Administration specifies the reduction of loaf by two-thirds. Home made bread of a most appetizing sort has long been made without any loaf at all.

The reduction of sugar by one-half will probably improve the flavor of baker's bread.

Bakers are to use only skimmed milk. So far as bread is concerned no milk whatever is necessary, as housekeepers well know.

The restrictions imposed by the Food Administration make bewildering reading. What sort of extravagant messes have the bakers been offering the public, anyway?

Better a depreciated "ruble," Russia, than an easy German mark.

Women to demand place on juries.—*Newspaper headline.*

Most men spend their best efforts in seeking to keep out of the jury box. It is one place for which the competition is not keen.

If you are buying your Liberty bonds on Uncle Sam's installment plan the old gentleman will expect you to hand him to-day \$9 or a multiple thereof.

Representative DILL of Washington, responding with a toast to France at a luncheon given in Paris by HENRI FRANKLIN BOULANGER, French Minister of War, declared that America was entering the struggle with her full power and resources and was prepared to continue until German militarism was destroyed.—*Despatch from Paris.*

Did Representative DILL repeat to his French auditors his assertions, made in the House on April 6, that "this is a war upon the part of the Allies and the other European countries for trade and territory," and that "when you take off all the fine spin theories, when you strip away all the beautiful language, and get down to the real reason for [our] going into this war, it is for the purpose of trading with the Allies?"

Quite as a matter of course the newspapers announce that Governor and Mrs. BRECKENRIDGE of Rhode Island, who were in Europe, had just returned to Paris by airplane. That route is quicker, safer and no less comfortable than the Channel passage. It is used more than the war news of the day finds time to mention, probably. Riding in an airplane without shooting or being shot at is tame sport, and the relief of travel on the trip perhaps there will be practice with the plane's bow gun.

Marshall MCARTHUR said that more than 25,000 enemy aliens in Manhattan and New York were under strict espionage of ten persons, six of them policemen.—*The News of the day.*

Those ten persons must be the busiest residents of the busiest town in America.

May the coming winter have many a sleetish day.

**KARL MUCK.**

**Hjalmar H. Boyesen Thinks His Presence Is Undesirable.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I do not agree with your editorial article which states that "when the greater agents of Germany have been put out of the way it will be time to deal with the smaller."

On the contrary, let us deal with all, great and small, at all times. To Dr. Muck and all others should be denied an audience in this country.

Many of our allies are going without necessary food. Let us go without unnecessary music purveyed by contemptuous and defiant aliens. It seems to me that they should all be actively encouraged to visit this country, and to respect their ability to play a particular instrument.

Ask them to play grandly the "Star Spangled Banner." They ought to play a Marche Funèbre for the Hohenzollern-Hapsburg partnership, and the most moving hymn of penance ever written for Belgium.

Meanwhile their homes among us offer congenial meeting places for the loyal and half loyal.

By all means let us abstain from their music and encourage them to depart.

HJALMAR H. BOYSEN.

WATERBURY, November 14.

**Curiosity as to the Mental Processes of Hjalmar.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: With regard to the article in your issue of Wednesday that the Kaiser would play trump card, and play it at the wrong time, did he make the prophecy before or after the "dropping of the pilot"? The point I would be satisfied upon is: did Hjalmar foresee what would happen as a result of studying the young Emperor's policy as far as it had gone up to that time, or did he always recognize that Wilhelm was inherently unshrewd, and would sooner or later betray his qualities?

V. L. S.

BROOKLYN, November 12.

## THE LAWYERS' BIT.

**How They Have Helped Fight the War in Their Own Field.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In view of the stirring appeal of the President to the legal profession in connection with the new draft regulations, publicity should be given to the effective and patriotic service which the members of the bar of this city have already rendered.

Last July the Adjutant-General of the State designated a lawyer to act as representative of the Provost Marshal-General Crowder in giving legal advice to each of the 150 exemption boards of this city. These lawyers efficiently and patriotically devoted themselves to the arduous task and have very materially contributed to the successful working of the law.

Roger B. Wood, formerly Assistant United States Attorney for this district, was designated by the Adjutant-General to direct the activities of the lawyers advising the exemption boards, and to receive much credit for his careful consideration of the Adjutant-General has been performing with ability and fidelity the arduous labor incident to appeals to the district board. Twenty-five lawyers appointed by the United States Attorney as special assistants have been aiding in the enforcement of the law.

On Thanksgiving let the Boy Scouts go through the parks and streets of this great city and round up the thousands of soldiers and sailors who are offering their all on the altar of liberty. Give them a welcome to your home and mine for the sake of the boys who have left us.

PLATHEUS.

BROOKLYN, November 14.

**PIETER VAN DER MEER.**

**A New Yorker Who Has Helped Him Seek His Whereabouts.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: There appeared in THE SUN's news columns an account of Pieter Van der Meer, a pupil of Ysaie, who was found playing in the streets of Kansas City. Would it be possible for any reader of your paper to find out where he is now?

Almost four years ago I found him playing on the streets of New York and assisted him to the best of my means for almost a year, when he obtained a small position in Cleveland and after that went to the one in California which you mentioned. Should you be able to find his address I would be very glad to write him and let him know that I am still alive.

If you could publish this letter I am sure it would be a great help to him. The support I am able to extend to him is not really sufficient to give him the care necessary to his condition; for he is suffering from catarrh and the sight of one eye is totally gone and the other is very weak. In the period in which I knew him he had partially recovered his sight as his health improved.

All the help he received in New York was given him by comparatively poor people and he lodged at a boarding house in Brooklyn kept by a poor widow whom he was certainly unable to pay adequately. As the man is undoubtedly a musician it seems unfortunate that his condition is not more widely known and that he should be dependent upon the help of people almost as poor as himself, as he was when I found him.

R. B. KING.

New York, November 14.

**TEACHING PATRIOTISM.**

**One Settlement That Recognizes Its Duty to the Nation.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: May I reply on behalf of one East Side settlement to the letter of Mr. Irving Winslow in THE SUN?

The College Settlement, 101 East 53rd Street, now at 54 First Street, has from the beginning of the war recognized its responsibility to serve America in this crisis and is endeavoring in every possible way to meet the need of the East Side to do its share in the support of this great war.

We have cooperated in military census work and both Liberty loans, seeing in them not only ends in themselves, but means as well for closer contact and more intimate acquaintance in our neighborhood with a view to future patriotic work.

We have for several months been running a war relief workshop in connection with the Society for French Wounded and the Red Cross, turning our work which has received high commendation.

We are at present feeling our way toward the thing most wide by way of help in food conservation. We are in a position to see the importance of skill and tactfulness in its presentation to our foreign born housekeepers, and in ministering to their great physical need we want as well to stimulate their sense of loyal cooperation and support of the Government under which they live.

We are cooperating with the Mayor's Committee on Aliens in its patriotic endeavors. Our head worker is called upon by almost every one of the fifty-seven varieties of nationalities and we are as well to stimulate their sense of civic activity for advice or help, and as far as is a able, having like the rest of us only twenty-four hours in her day, she is responding.

More keenly than Mr. Winslow can possibly do, unless he has lived in our neighborhood, we feel the need of Americanization of the alien and the work which the public school begins we "carry on." No other agency touches as logically and as intimately the lives of these future citizens as the settlements through their clubs and classes, and the richness of opportunity for civic and patriotic service is fully appreciated. If Mr. Winslow will investigate carefully the brand of patriotism practiced not only in the College Settlement but in the larger part of the other settlements as well, we have no fear but that he will find them well worth his support.

The need of that support is great. We are told that related civic work began at the beginning of the war, in London and some of the large Canadian cities resulted in a very marked increase in juvenile crime. That no such record attaches to our entrance into war it must be our duty to guard. And this means increased burdens and budgets which we believe the public will be willing to share.

NEW YORK, November 14.

**A Closed Door.**

The camel contemplated the needle's eye. "Looky for you 'ere not a knitting needle," he muttered.

**Passing the Time in Pennsylvania.**

From the *Middleton Press.* When J. B. Miesmer, one of the noted citizens of Mount Joy, was 3 years old, one of his ancestors, a Dutch settler, brought with him to America in 1738, Jacob B. has now passed it along to his grandson, George Miesmer, a little Harbourside city boy, who is now 17 years old. Since John Michael Miesmer brought it to this country 170 years ago.

MISS LAYNE.

**From Flinders.**

Old Paul, you'll soon be over here. And at it is the trenches. Where Mars in pools of steaming blood. And where the busy little bomb. Across the scene inanders. The hardest thing you'll have to fight. Will be the mud in Flinders.

The mucky, rocky, sticky stuff. Is like molasses laid. You wallow in it to the hips. Until you're almost daffs. "Would give a Good Roads advocate. Hysterics or the glanders. To see the mud in Flinders. Upon the mud in Flinders.

But we are not the kind that waits. For sicker and sicker. We're here in France to conquer mud. As well as bombs and hoses. We're here to face the Kaiser's Saps. And the mud in Flinders. We're here to bury all his Hun. Beneath the mud of Flinders.

MISS LAYNE.

**Cutting the Budget to the Bone.**

From the *Prattville News.* Come in and let us explain how the Republican Town Board saved nearly \$160 for the town last year.

## YOUR THANKSGIVING.

**Set a Place at the Table for a Boy Who Wears the Uniform.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: My boy, who is down at Sparta, writes that the people of that hospitable little town have united in a plan to have soldiers as their guests on Thanksgiving Day. Every family will entertain at least two men at dinner, which leads me to ask:

Why cannot New Yorkers, always so generous and well fed, share their bounty on Thanksgiving Day with the sons of Kansas farmers, Tennessee mountaineers, Colorado ranchers, Ohio mechanics, and business men from nearly every State in the Union, who find themselves here practically friendless and alone on that greatest of American holidays? Many of them are boys who have not been away from home before.

Let every New Yorker in whose home there hangs a service flag (and every one else too), at whose table on Thanksgiving Day the Union, who find themselves here practically friendless and alone on that greatest of American holidays? Many of them are boys who have not been away from home before.

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